

Claims

We claim:

1. A container for dispensing selected portions of a web material retained on a roll, the roll being substantially hollow and having an inner diameter, the container comprising:

a substantially hollow dispenser having an elongated opening in a portion of the side wall thereof, the dispenser comprising a profile shape;

a track-guided cutting assembly comprising a shearing device and a cutter track, the cutter track having a track profile shape; and

at least one molded end cap comprising a molded groove substantially corresponding to the profile shape of the dispenser, a molded projection substantially corresponding to the inner diameter of the roll, and a cutter track holder substantially corresponding to the track profile shape of the cutter track,

wherein the at least one end cap is detachable from the dispenser, roll and track-guided cutting assembly.

2. The container of claim 1 wherein the profile shape of the dispenser is substantially circular.

3. The container of claim 1 wherein the dispenser comprises a substantially transparent plastic.

4. The container of claim 3 wherein the dispenser comprises a thick walled plastic.

5. The container of claim 1 wherein the dispenser is telescoping.

6. The container of claim 1 wherein the dispenser comprises a removable tab positioned adjacent the elongated opening.

7. The container of claim 1 wherein the at least one molded end cap comprises a substantially square profile.

8. The container of claim 1 wherein the at least one molded end cap comprises a snap-over paper holder.

9. The container of claim 1 wherein the at least one molded end cap comprises a rib capable of engagement with a notch in the dispenser.

10. The container of claim 1 wherein the cutter track is adhesively bonded to the dispenser.

11. The container of claim 1 wherein the shearing device is capable of moving along the cutter track for the length of the elongated opening.

12. The container of claim 11 wherein the shearing device comprises at least two sharp edges.

13. The container of claim 11 wherein the cutter track is engaged with the cutter track holder of the end caps, the engagement fixing the position of the cutter track relative to the dispenser.

14. The container of claim 1 wherein the cutter track comprises a styrene based elastomer co-extruded on a high impact polystyrene.

15. The container of claim 11 wherein the cutter track comprises at least one barbed end, a first end cap comprises at least one notch, and a second end cap comprises at least one notch, wherein the cutter track is positioned such that the cutter track nests in the at least one notch of the first end cap and in the at least one notch of the second end cap, wherein the at least one barbed end is positioned on the side of the end cap opposite the dispenser.

16. The container of claim 1 wherein the engagement of the profile of the dispenser and the groove of the end caps comprises a friction interference fit.

17. The container of claim 1 wherein the end caps comprise a rib and the dispenser comprises at least one notch positioned proximate to the elongated opening, wherein the rib of the end caps engages the at least one notch fixing the position of the dispenser relative to the end caps.

18. The container of claim 1 wherein two or more end caps are connected to each other.

19. The container of claim 18 wherein the end caps comprise tongue-in-groove connectors such that two or more end caps are connected via the connectors.

20. The container of claim 1 wherein the web material comprises one or more of gift wrap, decorative foil, aluminum foil, or plastic wrap.

21. The container of claim 1 wherein the container further comprises a snap-on paper holder.

22. A container for dispensing selected portions of a web material retained on a roll, the container comprising:

a hollow, substantially cylindrical dispenser having an elongated opening in a portion of the side wall thereof;

a cutter assembly positioned adjacent the elongated opening; and

a first end cap and a second end cap positioned on the dispenser, enclosing the ends of the dispenser and being capable of supporting the roll of web material and the cutter assembly;

wherein the elongated opening is capable of receiving an end of the rolled material for removal of a selected portion thereof from the roll by the cutter assembly.

23. A container for cutting select portions of a web material retained on a roll, the container comprising:

a dispenser with the roll of web material therein;

a cutter assembly positioned on the dispenser, the cutter assembly comprising a cutter track and a shearing device; and

end caps positioned on the dispenser, enclosing the ends of the dispenser, the end caps comprising a molded material comprising a detent substantially corresponding to the profile shape of the cutter track, a groove substantially corresponding to the profile shape of the dispenser, and a protrusion for accepting a roll of material;

wherein the select portion of the web material is removed from the dispenser and cut with the cutter assembly.

24. The container of claim 23 wherein the end caps comprise a portion of a one piece molded component.